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SURJECT Disturbances in East Bengal

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DIST. 19 November 1946

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SUPPLEMENT

- l. Congress Party reports on the disturbances in East Bengal were found to be exaggerated. Persons interviewed in the area stated non-indigenous Muslim goondas (gangsters) started the trouble, and their attacks were largely aimed at the mahajans (money lenders); local villagers were not attacked. The gangsters departed, and local Muslim inhabitants continued looting. A great deal of leoting and arson was reported, but the number of dead probably does not exceed 1,000.
- The large numbers of evacuees from East Bengal into the Calcutta area stemmed from areas surrounding the areas of actual conflict.
- 25X1X 3. expressed the opinion there was no Communist responsibility for these disturbances.

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Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

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